31. The process according to claim 23 wherein the compound of formula (I) is (R,S)-7-(3-aminomethyl-4-*syn*-methoxyimino-pyrrolidin-1-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-4-oxo-1,4-dihydro-1,8-naphthyridine-3-carboxylic acid methanesulfonate or a hydrate thereof.

B3 cmt

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1 and 12-31 will be pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended. A marked-up version of claim 1 as amended is attached hereto as Appendix 1.

Support for this preliminary amendment is found in the claims as originally filed, and in the specification at page 2, lines 19-21, page 3, lines 4-12 and 20-23, and page 4, lines 10-14. No new matter is being added.

The Applicants reserve the right to prosecute, in this or one or more other patent applications, the claims to non-elected inventions, the claims as originally filed, and any other claims supported by the specification. For example, the Applicants reserve the right to re-instate, or file a divisional or other patent application claiming, any subject matter no longer explicitly included in the amended claims.

If it would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to confer with the Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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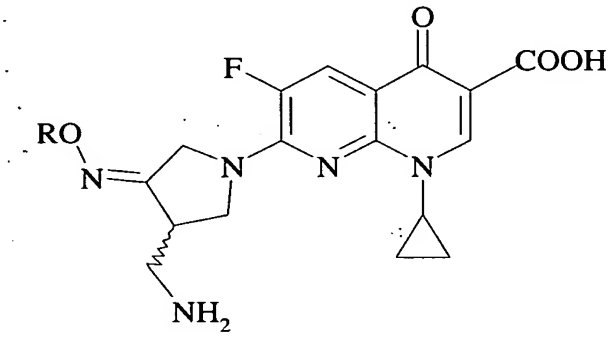
Appendix 1

Marked-up version of claim 1 amendment made March 1, 2002

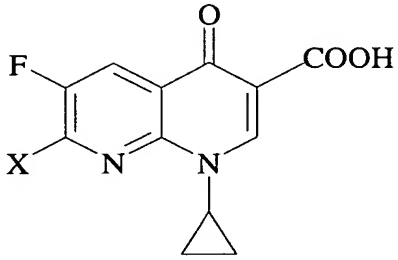
added text shown by underlineation

1. (once amended) A process for the production of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt and/or hydrate thereof:



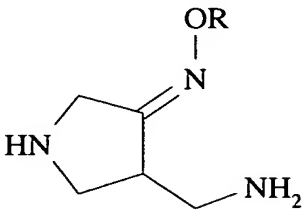
(I)

wherein R is C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-4} haloalkyl, which comprises reaction of a compound of formula (II):



(II)

wherein X is a leaving group; with a compound of formula (III):



(III)

wherein R is as defined for formula (I), or a salt thereof;

in the presence of a base and an aqueous solvent, wherein the solvent is water;

and optionally forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt and/or hydrate thereof.